

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,859,552 B2
APPLICATION NO. : 09/992164
DATED : February 22, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Reiko Izume et al.

Page 1 of 8

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

The title page showing the illustrative figure should be deleted to be replaced with the attached title page.

Signed and Sealed this

Seventeenth Day of June, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is stylized, with a large, looped initial "J" and a cursive "Dudas".

JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

(12) **United States Patent**
Izume et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 6,859,552 B2**
(45) Date of Patent: **Feb. 22, 2005**

(54) **IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS**

(75) Inventors: **Rieko Izume, Sakai (JP); Yoshihiro Hara, Kishiwada (JP)**

(73) Assignee: **Minolta Co., Ltd., Osaka (JP)**

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 589 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/992,164**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 6, 2001**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Nov. 7, 2000 (JP) 2000-339306
Nov. 28, 2000 (JP) 2000-361566

(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **G06K 9/00**

(52) U.S. Cl. **382/170; 382/305**

(58) Field of Search **382/169, 170, 382/195, 203, 209, 218, 305; 707/6, 104.1**

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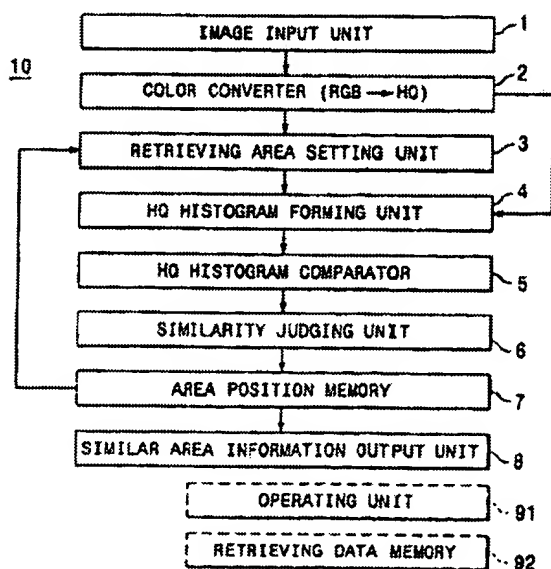
Primary Examiner—Phuoc Tran

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

In an image retrieving apparatus for retrieving a retrieving image in an input image, a color histogram of an image in a retrieving area in the input image is compared with a color histogram of the retrieving image. At first, a candidate area in which the retrieving image can be included is roughly retrieved by rough image retrieving with selecting a larger retrieving area and a rough resolution of gradation of the histograms. Subsequently, an area including an image corresponding to the retrieving image is precisely retrieved by fine image retrieving with a smaller retrieving area and a fine resolution of gradation of the histograms.

44 Claims, 29 Drawing Sheets



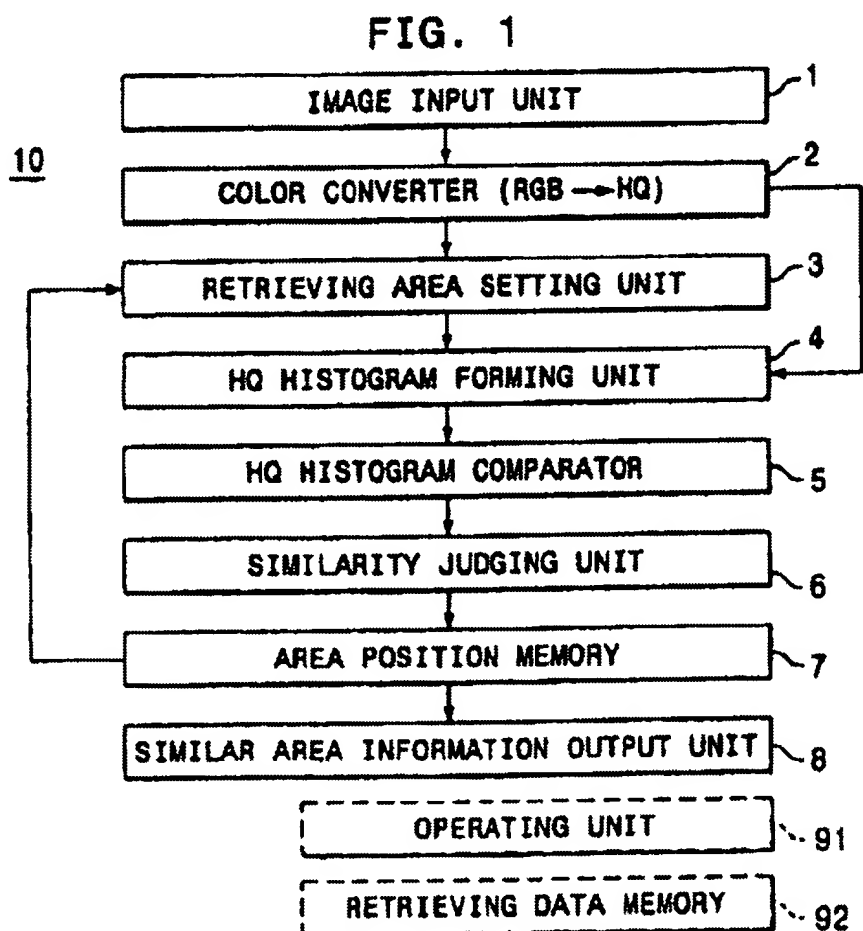
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 1, FIG. 1, please delete FIG. 1 and add new FIG. 1 below.



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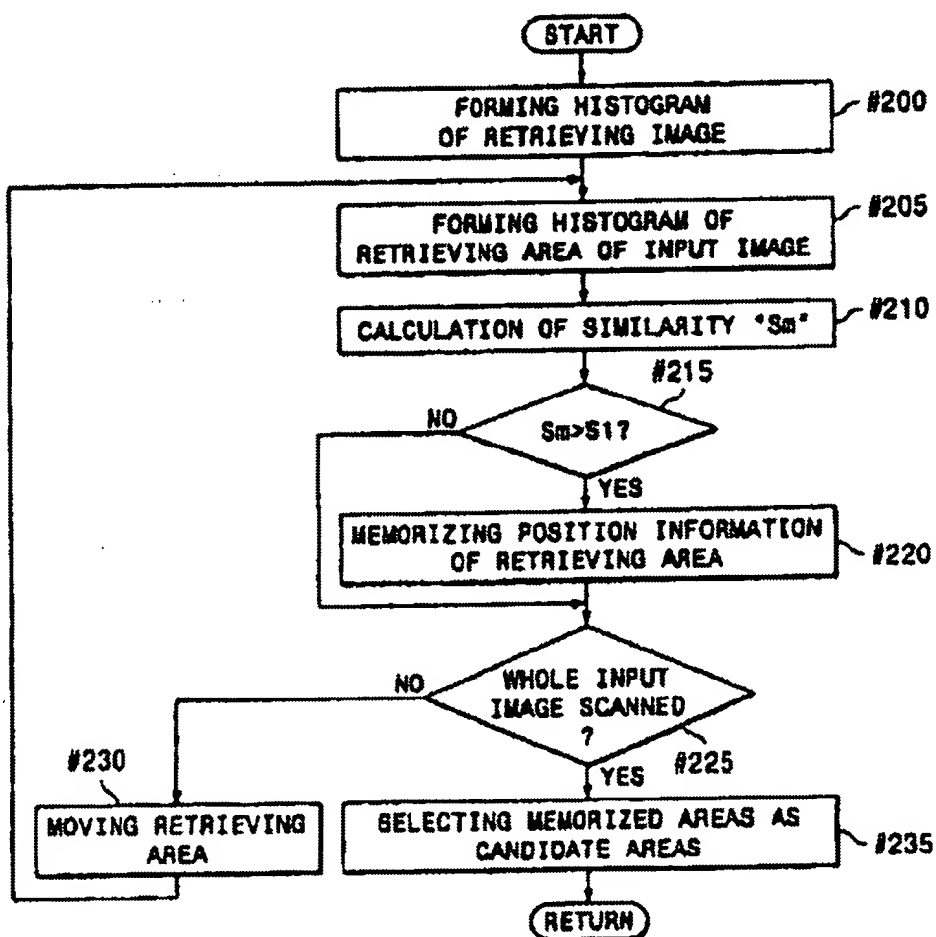
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 9, FIG. 11, please delete FIG. 11 and add new FIG. 11 below.

FIG. 11



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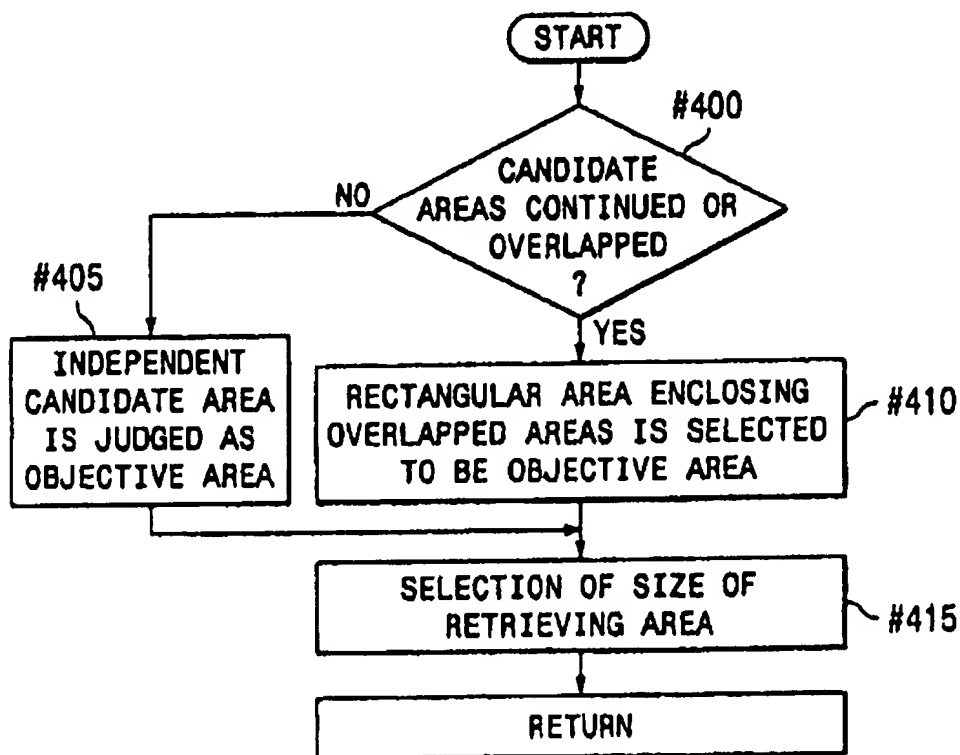
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 11, FIG. 13, please delete FIG. 13 and add new FIG. 13 below.

FIG. 13



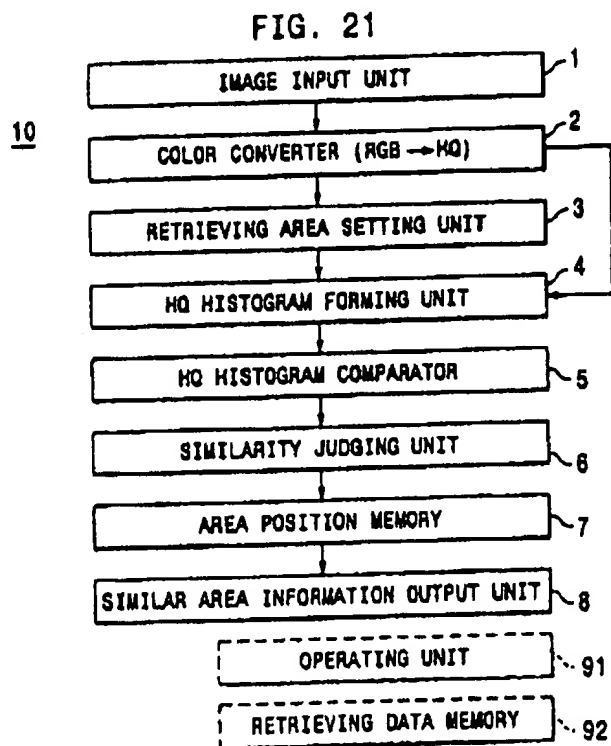
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 19, FIG. 21, please delete FIG. 21 and add new FIG. 21 below.



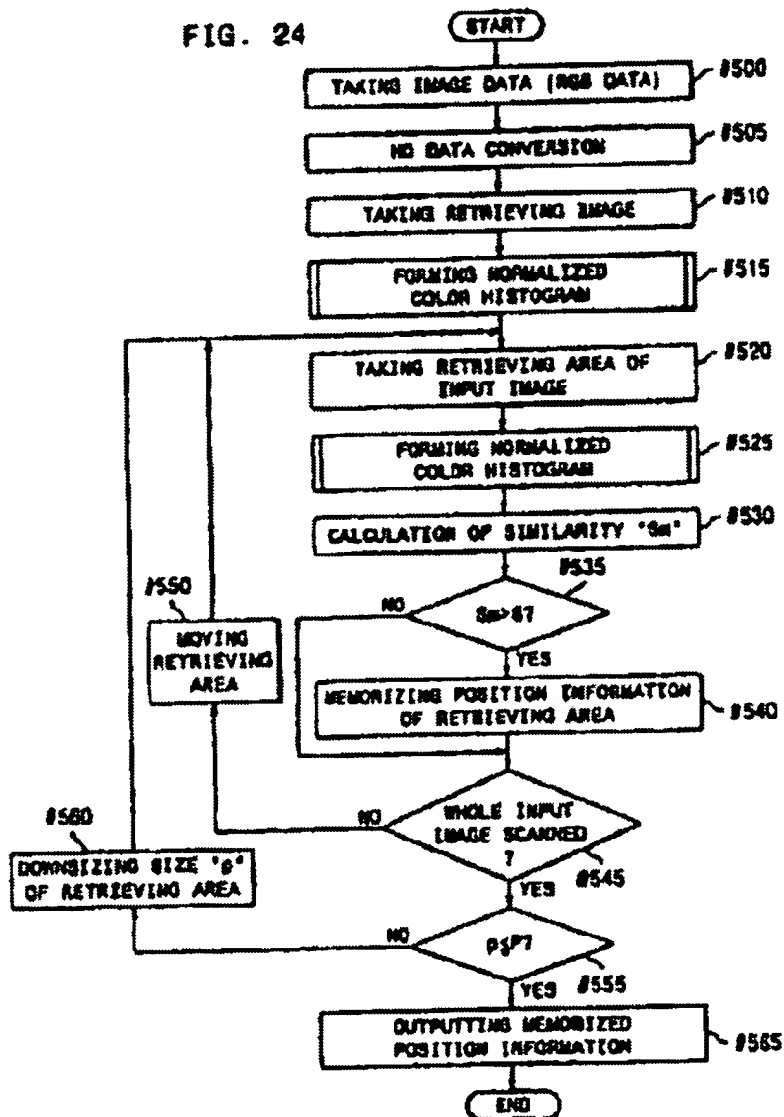
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 22, FIG. 24, please delete FIG. 24 and add new FIG. 24 below.



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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Drawing Sheet 24, FIG. 26, please delete FIG. 26 and add new FIG. 26 below.

